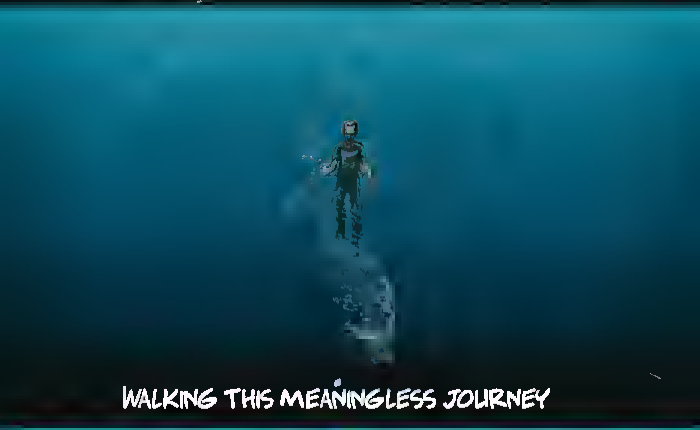
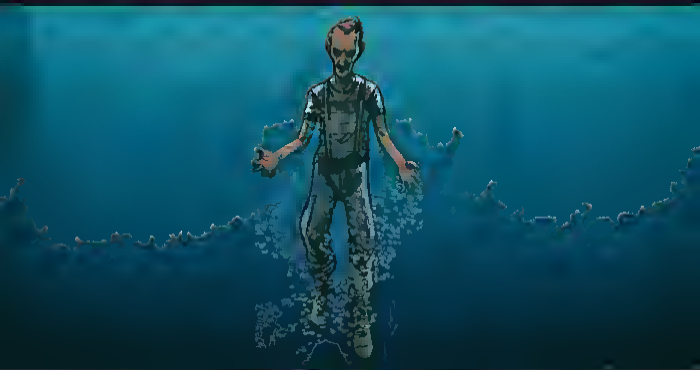
MY ENTIRE LIFE,
I'VE BEEN FLOATING ALONE
GOING THROUGH THE UPS
AND DOWNS BY MYSELF
I'VE BEEN A NOBODY

elena

IM ONE OF THOSE SHADOWS BEHIND THE PRETTY ONES



WALKING THIS MEANINGLESS JOURNEY

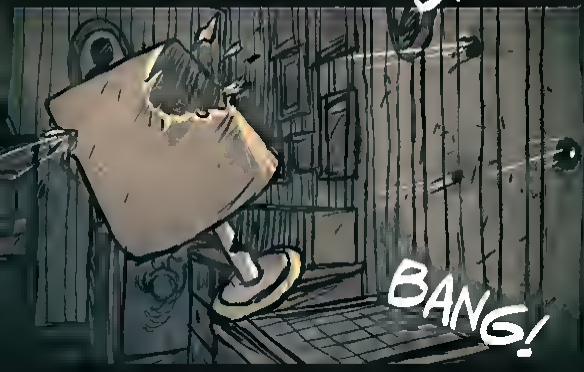


BUT THEN...
I FOUND YOU

AND MY LIFE WAS CHANGED.

BANG!

BANG!



BANG!

BANG!

BANG!
POE ONCE SAID:
THE BOUNDARIES WHICH DIVIDE LIFE FROM DEATH ARE AT BEST SHADOWY AND VAGUE.
BANG!
WHO SHALL SAY WHERE THE ONE ENDS, AND WHERE THE OTHER BEGINS?
BANG!

AND I LOVED YOU. WITH A LOVE THAT WAS MORE THAN LOVE.
YOU WERE MY FRIEND, MY COMPANY
MY BELOVED

I SHALL LOOK AT MY LIFE IN RETROSPECTIVE,
SNAP
SNAP
HAS IT BEEN REAL
SNAP
OR JUST A DREAM?
SNAP!

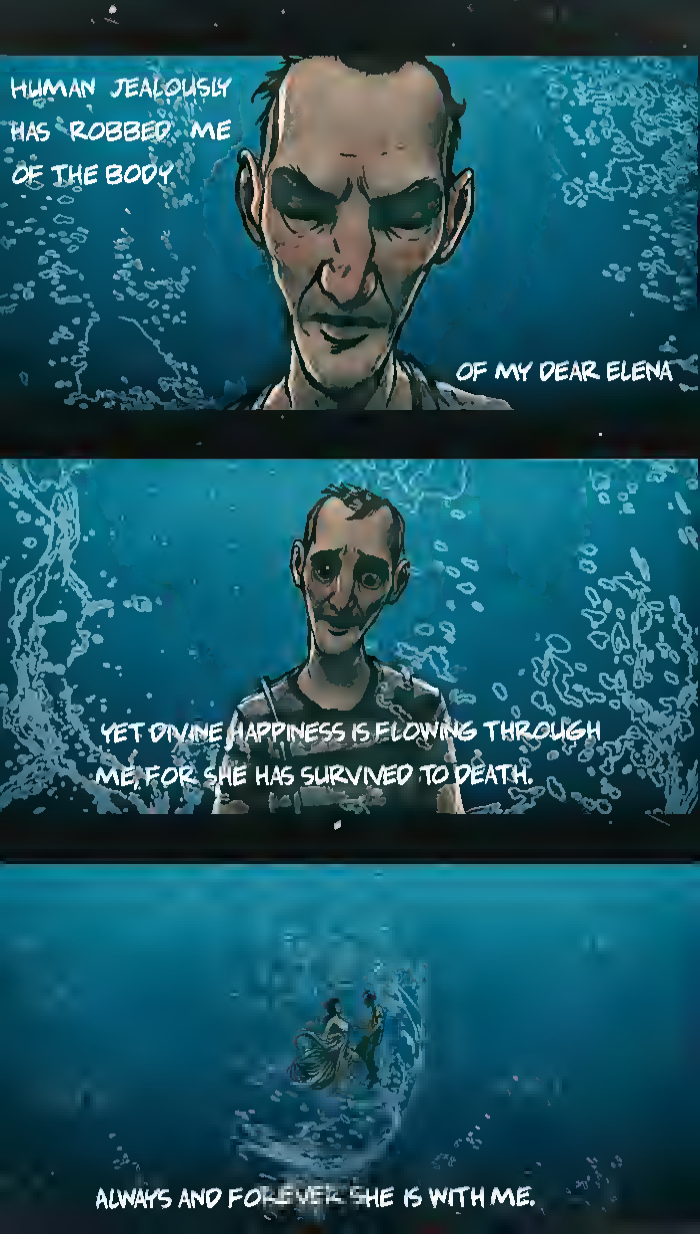
SWAP

A DREAM WITHIN A DREAM?
I THOUGHT I MADE MISTAKES
THAT IT'S BEEN WRONG, DESPICABLE, AND SELFISH,

BUT BEING NEXT TO YOU...
HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE RIGHT THING

ALWAYS ...
THEY PLANTED THE SEED OF HATE INSIDE ME,

AND ONLY YOU COULD KEEP ME SANE.
ALWAYS LISTENING, ALWAYS WITH ME.
I WAS NEVER MORE JOYFUL THAN WHEN I WAS BY YOUR SIDE.
I WAS NEVER ALONE.


HUMAN JEALOUSLY HAS ROBBED ME OF THE BODY
OF MY DEAR ELENA
YET DIVINE HAPPINESS IS FLOWING THROUGH ME, FOR SHE HAS SURVIVED TO DEATH.
ALWAYS AND FOREVER SHE IS WITH ME.

THE END

elena
jorge jaramillo

It's november the 25th of 2015 and I just finished the last chapter of my first graphic novel "Elena."

I've got many feelings right now: sadness, happiness, pride, the thought that I could have done a better job, and the will to start a new story soon!

However, even if it sounds cliche, the biggest feeling Elena leaves inside me is that working on your own projects always brings the greatest rewards.

As many of you may know, "Elena" was the first story I wrote when I was still a teenager, after watching a show about Doctor Carl Tanzler, who lived with the corpse of the young lady Elena Milagros for several years.

Without a doubt, Doctor Tanzler's story is a shocking one, but I saw the beauty in it. Instead of being the tale of a creepy old necrophilliac, he represented the obscure fear we all have of getting old and dying alone.

Many years passed before I wrote the script for a eight minute short film about an old man named Carl, who was getting ready to celebrate his anniversary with his wife, surprising her with a homemade machine that could finally make his dream come true: to dance with her corpse.

This was not a very commercial story, it was expensive and difficult for my younger self. And years went by before “Elena” could reappear.

Fast forward, a few years ago I moved from cloudy Bogota to sunny Los Angeles, to try to pursue my dreams as a filmmaker. Unexpectedly, I ended up getting really into comic books and graphic novels, and found how amazingly this creative medium was, pretty close to filmmaking in many ways. So I thought to myself: "it could be fun to explore this art form. And what better story to do it than with my beloved and never-forgotten 'Elena'?"

The rest is history.

Today, I end this journey. It was one entire year of drawing nonstop, and I found the most incredible joy in giving to myself the full story I always wanted to do. But I found something even more gratifying: the thousands of people who took time to read, enjoy, live and share this comic. I want to thank all of you. Thanks to all the fans from all over the world who messaged me constantly, to ask me questions, send me good vibes and amazing drawings. Thank you.

Thanks to all the fans from all over the world who messaged me constantly, to ask me questions, send me good vibes and amazing drawings. Thank you.

I want to thank Emily J Han, Paul Jun and the great team of LINE Webtoon for creating an awesome platform to support artists and the comic world, without them this wouldn't have been possible.

Thanks to all the friends and family, for always supporting me with my crazy ideas.

And last but not least, I want to thank my beloved wife Ana Sanchez (My Elena) and Luis Fernando Mora for helping me turn my ideas into images and creating the words that complete them!

Many thanks to all of you, see you next time!

Jorge Jaramillo

@lordbinah

LINE Webtoon